

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A ~~device~~ An implant for securing a suture relative to a body tissue in a patient's body, comprising

a body portion defining a longitudinal central axis and including a first end and a second end, the second end including a pointed end portion; and

a plurality of ~~openings~~ passages each defining a passage extending through the body portion orthogonal to the longitudinal central axis which allow for the threading of suture,

wherein ~~one of the passages~~ a first passage is formed proximate said second end ~~partially in the body portion and partially in the pointed end portion; and~~

wherein a suture threaded through said first passage is operative to rotate said anchor when said suture is tensioned.

2. (Currently amended) The ~~device~~ implant according to claim 1, wherein the body portion is substantially cylindrical.

3. (Currently amended) The ~~device~~ implant according to claim 1, wherein the pointed end portion is conical in shape.

4.-7 (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) The ~~device~~ implant according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of passages are substantially parallel.

9. (Currently amended) ~~A device~~ An implant for securing a suture relative to a body tissue in a patient's body, comprising

a cylindrical body defining a longitudinal central axis and a pointed end portion having a central axis which is coincident with the longitudinal central axis of the cylindrical body,

a first ~~opening defining a first passage~~ extending formed partially through the cylindrical body ~~and partially through proximate~~ the pointed end portion in a direction transverse to the longitudinal central axis of the cylindrical body, and

a second ~~opening defining a second passage~~ extending through the cylindrical body in a direction transverse to the longitudinal central axis of the cylindrical body;

wherein said pointed end portion is operative to pierce body tissue; and

wherein first and second suture sections are passed through and extend away from said first and second passages, respectfully, and

wherein said anchor is rotated when the first suture section is tensioned and the second suture section is relaxed.

10. (Currently amended) The ~~device~~ implant according to claim 9, wherein the first passage and the second passage are substantially parallel.

11. (Currently amended) The ~~device~~ implant according to claim 9, wherein the pointed end portion forms an opening in the body tissue in the patient's body when a force is applied against a trailing end of the cylindrical body in a direction extending along the longitudinal central axis of the cylindrical body.

12. (Currently amended) The ~~device~~ implant according to claim 9, wherein the cylindrical body is made of bone.

13. (Currently amended) The ~~device~~ implant according to claim 12, wherein the bone is allogenic bone.

14. (Currently amended) The ~~device~~ implant according to claim 12, wherein the bone is autogenic bone.

15. (Currently amended) The ~~device~~ implant according to claim 12, wherein the bone is xenogenic bone.

16. (Currently amended) The ~~device~~ implant according to claim 12, wherein the bone is cortical bone.

17. (Currently amended) The ~~device~~ implant according to claim 9, wherein the cylindrical body is formed of a single piece of freeze dried bone.

18. (Currently amended) The ~~device~~ implant according to claim 9, wherein the cylindrical body is made of a material selected from the group consisting of a metal, a metal alloy, biodegradable material, and biocrodible material.

19. (Currently amended) The ~~device~~ implant according to claim 9, wherein the body tissue is soft tissue.

20. (Currently amended) The ~~device~~ implant according to claim 9, wherein the body tissue is bone.

21. (Currently amended) ~~A device~~ An implant for securing a suture relative to a body tissue in a patient's body, comprising

a cylindrical body defining a longitudinal central axis and including a substantially conical end portion having a central axis which is coincident with the longitudinal central axis of the cylindrical body, wherein the cylindrical body is made of bone;

~~a first opening defining a first passage, proximate said conical end portion, extending~~
through the cylindrical body in a direction transverse to the longitudinal central axis of the cylindrical body; and

~~a second opening defining a second passage extending through the cylindrical body~~
substantially parallel to the ~~first opening passage, disposed further from said conical end portion~~
~~than said first passage, wherein the conical end portion forms an opening in the body tissue in the~~
patient's body when a force is applied against a trailing end of the cylindrical body in a direction
extending along the longitudinal central axis of the cylindrical body; and

wherein a suture section threaded through said first passage is operative to initiate rotation
of said anchor when said suture section is tensioned.

22-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently amended) ~~A device~~ An implant assembly for securing a suture relative to a body tissue in a patient's body, comprising:

a cylindrical body defining a longitudinal central axis and a pointed end portion having a central axis which is coincident with the longitudinal central axis of the cylindrical body;

a first ~~opening defining a first~~ passage formed proximate said pointed end extending ~~partially through the cylindrical body and partially through the pointed end portion~~ in a direction transverse to the longitudinal central axis of the cylindrical body;

a second ~~opening defining a second~~ passage extending through the cylindrical body in a direction transverse to the longitudinal central axis of the cylindrical body;

a suture connected to the device under tension and extending through the first and second passages; and

a retainer connected to the suture for maintaining the tension in the suture.

25. (Currently amended) The ~~system~~ assembly according to claim 24, wherein the retainer is made of a material that becomes flowable when ultrasonic vibratory energy is applied.

26. (New) The implant of claim 21, wherein the conical end portion forms an opening in bone in the patient's body.

27. (New) The implant of claim 1, wherein said first passage is formed to extend partially through the cylindrical body and partially through the pointed end portion.